ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multilumen catheter assembly and methods for making and inserting the same are provided. The catheter assembly includes a unitary catheter and at least two distal end tubes which extend distally from the unitary catheter. The at least two lumens in the unitary catheter are in fluid communication with passageways through the distal end tubes. The catheter assembly may be made by extruding a unitary catheter tube having internal longitudinally extending lumens, then splitting the tube on its distal end portion to form distal end tubes. The tubes are then ground and polished to form a smooth surface on the exterior of the tubes. The catheter assembly may also be made by forming an outer layer on at least two longitudinally extending catheters while leaving two distally extending portions of the tubes outside the outer layer to form the distal end tubes. The multilumen catheter assembly may be inserted in a patient for acute and chronic catheterization and subcutaneously tunneled and inserted using a single insertion procedure while leaving the distal end tubes within the vessel capable of free movement and sealing the insertion site into an area to be catheterized.